

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 238 without my signature.

I strongly support the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program which provides services to low-income aged, blind or disabled persons so they can remain safely in homes. My Administration has worked hard to secure more than 1.7 billion in federal funds to protect these important services. However, I cannot support expanding the program's scope to include reading services. This expansion would add more than one million dollars in new costs at a time of ongoing budget challenges. We must balance our need for important program services with our fiscal reality.

For these reasons, I am returning AB 238 without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger